

EXHIBIT A



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

March 6, 2025

Tammi M. Hellwig
United States District Court
Southern District of New York
500 Pearl St.
New York, NY 10007

Re: *Mary Jelnek, et al. v. Islamic Republic of Iran*, 1:24-cv-05520

Dear Ms. Hellwig:

I am writing regarding the Court's request for transmittal of a Summons, Complaint, Notice to Conform to Sudan Consolidated Amended Complaint or Ashton Sudan Amended Complaint, Notice to Conform to Consolidated Amended Complaint, Civil Cover Sheet, Corrected Civil Cover Sheet, Related Case Statement, and Notice of Suit to the Islamic Republic of Iran pursuant to 28 U.S.C. Section 1608(a)(4) as a defendant in the above referenced lawsuit.

Because the United States does not maintain diplomatic relations with the Government of Iran, the Department of State is assisted by the Foreign Interests Section of the Embassy of Switzerland in Tehran in delivering these documents to the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The documents were delivered to the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs under cover of diplomatic note No. 1007-IE, dated February 10, 2025, and delivered on February 11, 2025. A certified copy of the diplomatic note is enclosed.¹

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jared N. Hess".

Jared N. Hess
Attorney Adviser
Office of the Legal Adviser
L/CA/POG/GC

¹ Please note that performance by the Department of State of its statutory functions under 28 U.S.C. § 1608 should not be construed as an indication in any way of the United States' position or views on whether plaintiffs have properly complied with all statutory requirements of the FSIA, the status or character of a defendant, whether service was properly effected, or the merits of any claims or defenses. *See* <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/legal/travel-legal-considerations/internal-judicial-asst/Service-of-Process/Foreign-Sovereign-Immunities-Act.html>.

Cc: Jerry S. Goldman
Anderson Kill P.C.
1251 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10020

SPECIFIC AUTHENTICATION CERTIFICATE

Confederation of Switzerland)
Bern, Canton of Bern) SS:
Embassy of the United States of America)

Scott M. DRISKEL, a consular officer at the Embassy of the United States at Bern, Switzerland, certify that this is a true copy of Embassy note number 28442 dated December 19, 2024, which was transmitted to the Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs on January 8, 2025, for further transmission to the American Interests Section of the Swiss Embassy in Tehran, Iran.


(Signature of Consular Officer)

Scott M. DRISKEL
(Typed name of Consular Officer)

Consul of the United States of America
(Title of Consular Officer)

February 24, 2025
(Date)





Embassy of the United States of America

December 19, 2024

CONS NO.

28442

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs
Foreign Interests Section
Kochergasse 10
Federal Palace North
Office #4.001
3003 Bern

Subject: JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE: Service of process under the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act (FSIA) – **Mary Jelnek, et al. v. Islamic Republic of Iran, 1:24-cv-05520**

REF: ----

The Department of State has requested the delivery of the enclosed Summons, Complaint, Notice to Conform to Sudan Consolidated Amended Complaint or Ashton Sudan Amended Complaint, Notice to Conform to Consolidated Amended Complaint, Civil Cover Sheet, Corrected Civil Cover Sheet, Related Case Statement, and Notice of Suit to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran pursuant to the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act in the matter Mary Jelnek, et al. v. Islamic Republic of Iran, 1:24-cv-05520.

The Embassy is herewith requesting the Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs to transmit the documents to the American Interests Section of the Swiss Embassy in Tehran. There is one defendant to be served in this case: the Islamic Republic of Iran. The American Interests Section should transmit the Summons, Complaint, Notice to Conform to Sudan Consolidated Amended Complaint or Ashton Sudan Amended Complaint, Notice to Conform to Consolidated Amended Complaint, Civil Cover Sheet, Corrected Civil Cover Sheet, Related Case Statement, and Notice of Suit to the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs under cover of one diplomatic note utilizing the language provided in the enclosed instructions.

Transmittal should be done in a manner which enables the Embassy to confirm delivery. The American Interests Section should execute certifications of the diplomatic notes, which will be forwarded by the Department of State to the requesting court in the United States.

Enclosed is one appropriate part of a message the Embassy received from the Department of State as well two sets of documents for each defendant.

The Embassy would appreciate being informed of the date the American Interests Section of the Swiss Embassy in Tehran receives the documents as well as the date the Interests Section forwards the documents to the Iranian authorities.

SPP's assistance is much appreciated.



BEGIN TEXT OF DIPLOMATIC NOTE REGARDING DEFENDANT Islamic Republic of Iran:

The Embassy of Switzerland, Foreign Interests Section in Tehran refers the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the lawsuit *Mary Jelnek, et al. v. Islamic Republic of Iran*, 1:24-cv-05520, which is pending in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. The Islamic Republic of Iran is a defendant in this case. The Foreign Interests Section transmits a Summons, Complaint, Notice to Conform to Sudan Consolidated Amended Complaint or *Ashton* Sudan Amended Complaint, Notice to Conform to Consolidated Amended Complaint, Civil Cover Sheet, Corrected Civil Cover Sheet, and Related Case Statement herewith. The U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York has requested service of these documents. This note constitutes transmittal of these documents to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran as contemplated in Title 28, United States Code, Section 1608(a)(4).

Under applicable U.S. law a defendant in a lawsuit must file an answer to the Complaint or some other responsive pleading within 60 days of the date of transmittal of the Complaint, in this case the date of this note. Failing to do so, a defendant risks the possibility of having judgment entered against it without the opportunity to present arguments or evidence on its behalf. Therefore, the Foreign Interests Section requests that the enclosed Summons and Complaint be forwarded to the appropriate authority of the Islamic Republic of Iran with a view towards taking whatever steps are necessary to avoid a default judgment.

In addition to the documents listed above, the Foreign Interests Section is enclosing a Notice of Suit, prepared by the plaintiff, which summarizes the nature of the case and includes references to U.S. laws concerning suits against foreign States.

The Foreign Interests Section has been advised that under U.S. law any jurisdictional or other defense including claims of sovereign immunity must be addressed to the court before which the matter is pending, for which reason it is advisable to consult an attorney in the United States. It is the practice of the U.S. Department of State to be available to discuss the requirements of U.S. law with counsel. The U.S. Government is not a party to this case and cannot represent other parties in this matter.

Attachments:

1. Summons, Complaint, Notice to Conform to Sudan Consolidated Amended Complaint or *Ashton* Sudan Amended Complaint, Notice to Conform to Consolidated Amended Complaint, Civil Cover Sheet, Corrected Civil Cover Sheet, Related Case Statement, and Notice of Suit
2. Translations

END TEXT OF DIPLOMATIC NOTE REGARDING DEFENDANT Islamic Republic of Iran

SPECIFIC AUTHENTICATION CERTIFICATE

Confederation of Switzerland)
Bern, Canton of Bern) SS:
Embassy of the United States of America)

I certify that the annexed document bears the genuine seal of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct.



(Signature of Consular Officer)

Scott M. DRISKEL
(Typed name of Consular Officer)

Consul of the United States of America
(Title of Consular Officer)

February 24, 2025
(Date)





Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA

K. 346-01-02-01-USA/IRAN

The Federal Department of Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America and refers to Cons Note No. 28442 dated December 19, 2024 regarding judicial assistance and has the honor to convey following documents of the U.S. Interests Section of the Embassy of Switzerland in Tehran:

Judicial Assistance:

Mary Jelnek, et al. v. Islamic Republic of Iran, 1:24-cv-05520
Note 1007-IE, addressed to the Islamic Republic of Iran

dated February 10, 2025 and proof of service, dated February 11, 2025 as well as the certification by the Swiss Federal Chancellery dated February 19, 2025.

The section has received the above-mentioned documents on January 21, 2025. It has transmitted these to the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs together with its diplomatic note on February 11, 2025. The reception of the mentioned documents was refused the same day by the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Federal Department of Foreign Affairs avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of United States of America the assurances of its highest consideration.

Berne, February 19, 2025

Enclosure(s) mentioned



To the
Embassy of the
United States of America

Berne

SPECIFIC AUTHENTICATION CERTIFICATE

Confederation of Switzerland)
Bern, Canton of Bern) SS:
Embassy of the United States of America)

I certify that the annexed document is executed by the genuine signature and seal of the following named official who, in an official capacity, is empowered by the laws of Switzerland to execute that document.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct.

Gaëlle CAFARO-VULLIERAT
(Typed name of Official who executed the annexed document)


(Signature of Consular Officer)

Scott M. DRISKEL
(Typed name of Consular Officer)

Consul of the United States of America
(Title of Consular Officer)

February 24, 2025
(Date)



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
 Confédération suisse
 Confederazione Svizzera
 Confederaziun svizra

Embassy of Switzerland in Iran
 Foreign Interests Section

No. 1007-IE

The Embassy of Switzerland, Foreign Interests Section in Tehran, presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and has the honor to refer the Ministry to the lawsuit *Mary Jelnek, et al. v. Islamic Republic of Iran*, 1:24-cv-05520, which is pending in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. The Islamic Republic of Iran is a defendant in this case. The Embassy transmits a Summons, Complaint, Notice to Conform to Sudan Consolidated Amended Complaint or Ashton Sudan Amended Complaint, Notice to Conform to Consolidated Amended Complaint, Civil Cover Sheet, Corrected Civil Cover Sheet, and Related Case Statement herewith. The U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York has requested service of these documents. This note constitutes transmittal of these documents to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran as contemplated in Title 28, United States Code, Section 1608(a)(4).

Under applicable U.S. law a defendant in a lawsuit must file an answer to the Complaint or some other responsive pleading within 60 days of the date of transmittal of the Complaint, in this case the date of this note. Failing to do so, a defendant risks the possibility of having judgment entered against it without the opportunity to present arguments or evidence on its behalf. Therefore, the Embassy requests that the enclosed Summons and Complaint be forwarded to the appropriate authority of the Islamic Republic of Iran with a view towards taking whatever steps are necessary to avoid a default judgment.

In addition to the documents listed above, the Embassy is enclosing a Notice of Suit, prepared by the plaintiff, which summarizes the nature of the case and includes references to U.S. laws concerning suits against foreign States.

The Embassy has been advised that under U.S. law any jurisdictional or other defense including claims of sovereign immunity must be addressed to the court before which the matter is pending, for which reason it is advisable to consult an attorney in the United States. It is the practice of the U.S. Department of State to be available to discuss the requirements of U.S. law with counsel. The U.S. Government is not a party to this case and cannot represent other parties in this matter.

The Embassy of Switzerland, Foreign Interests Section, avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran the assurances of its highest consideration.

Tehran - February 10, 2025



Attachments

1. Summons, Complaint, Notice to Conform to Sudan Consolidated Amended Complaint or Ashton Sudan Amended Complaint, Notice to Conform to Consolidated Amended Complaint, Civil Cover Sheet, Corrected Civil Cover Sheet, Related Case Statement, and Notice of Suit
2. Translations

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 Islamic Republic of Iran
 Department of American Affairs
 Tehran**

I, Dominique Baeriswyl, Head of the Foreign Interests Section of the Embassy of Switzerland in Iran, certify herewith that this is a true copy of Diplomatic Note No. 1007-IE, dated February 10, 2025. The delivery of this note and its enclosures was attempted on February 11, 2025, but the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs refused its acceptance.


Dominique Baeriswyl
Head of the Foreign Interests Section

Tehran – February 11, 2025



APOSTILLE
(Convention de la Haye du 5 octobre 1961)

1. Country: SWISS CONFEDERATION

This public document

2. has been signed by Dominique Baeriswyl

3. acting in the capacity of Head of the Foreign Interests Section

4. bears the seal/stamp of

EMBASSY OF SWITZERLAND U.S. INTERESTS SECTION

TEHERAN

Certified

5. at Berne

6. the 19 February 2025

7. by Gaëlle Cafaro-Vullierat
functionary of the Swiss federal Chancellery

8. No. 004237

9. Seal/stamp:

Swiss federal Chancellery

10. Signature:



شماره 1007-IE

سفارت سوئیس، قسمت حافظ منافع خارجی در تهران، ضمن اظهار تعارفات خود به وزارت امور خارجه جمهوری اسلامی ایران، احتراماً توجه آن وزارتخانه محترم را به دعوای حقوقی تحت عنوان ماری چلک و دیگران بر علیه جمهوری اسلامی ایران، تحت پرونده مدنی شماره 1:24-cv-05520 که در دادگاه ناحیه ای ایالات متحده آمریکا ویژه ناحیه جنوب نیو یورک مفتوح میباشد، جلب می نماید. جمهوری اسلامی ایران طرف خوانده در این پرونده می باشد. سفارت سوئیس بنا به درخواست دادگاه ناحیه ای ایالات متحده آمریکا ویژه ناحیه جنوب نیو یورک، یک فقره احصاریه، شکایت، اطلاعیه برای انتباط با شکایت اصلاح شده تلقی سودان یا شکایت اصلاح شده/شون سودان، اطلاعیه برای انتباط با شکایت اصلاح شده تلقی، برگه جلد دادخواست مدنی، برگه جلد دادخواست مدنی اصلاح شده و اظهارنامه مرتبط با پرونده را ایفاد می دارد. برایر مقررات فصل 28 بخش 1608 بند (الف) (4) مجموعه قوانین ایالات متحده، این یادداشت به منزله ابلاغ مدارک مذکور به دولت جمهوری اسلامی ایران تلقی می گردد.

طبق قوانین قابل اجرا ایالات متحده، خوانده یک پرونده می باشد طرف ۴۰ روز از تاریخ ابلاغ شکایت، در این مورد تاریخ یادداشت، پاسخی به شکایت یا دیگر پاسخی دفاعی در پرونده بگزارد در غیر اینصورت، ممکن است حکمی بر ضد خوانده صادر گردد بدون آنکه خوانده فرصت ارائه شواهد و دفاعیه از طرف خود را داشته باشد. لذا، سفارت در خواست می نماید که احصاریه و شکایت پیوست، با این دید که اقدامات لازم جهت جلوگیری از حکم قصور انجام شود، برای مقامات مربوطه ایرانی ارسال گردد.

سفارت علاوه بر اسناد مذکور، ابلاغیه اقامه دعوی که توسط شاکی دادر بر خلاصه ماهیت پرونده و مشتمل بر رونوشتی از مجموعه قوانین ایالات متحده آمریکا در خصوص دادخواست علیه دولتهاي خارجي تبیه شده است را به پیوست ایفاد می دارد.

سفارت بدینوسیله اشعار می دارد که بموجب قوانین ایالات متحده آمریکا، هر گونه دفاع مربوط به قلمرو قضائی و اداری و یا دفاع دیگری، از جمله عنوان نمودن مصوبیت دولت ها، باید در مقابل دادگاهی صورت گیرد که موضوع در آن مفتوح می باشد. از این رو مشورت با یک مشاور حقوقی در ایالات متحده آمریکا توصیه می گردد. وزارت امور خارجه ایالات متحده آمریکا امداد گفتگو با مشاور در مورد قوانین مربوطه میباشد. دولت ایالات متحده آمریکا از طرفین این پرونده نبوده و نماینده هیچ یک از طرفین نخواهد بود.

سفارت سوئیس، قسمت حافظ منافع خارجی، موقع را معتبر شمرده مراتب احترامات فائقه خود را نسبت به وزارت امور خارجه جمهوری اسلامی ایران را تجدید می نماید.

تهران - تاریخ بیست و دوم بهمن ماه ۱۴۰۳ (۱۰ فوریه ۲۰۲۵)



پیوست: ۱- احصاریه، شکایت، اطلاعیه برای انتباط با شکایت اصلاح شده تلقی سوئیس یا شکایت اصلاح شده/شون سودان، اطلاعیه برای انتباط با شکایت اصلاح شده تلقی، برگه جلد دادخواست مدنی، برگه جلد دادخواست مدنی اصلاح شده، اظهارنامه مرتبط با پرونده و ابلاغیه اقامه دعوی

۲- ترجمه ها

اداره امور آمریکا
وزارت امور خارجه
جمهوری اسلامی ایران
تهران